



THE AVON PARK BOMBING RANGE
AVON PARK, FLORIDA

Sunday
Jan 18, 1943

Dear Kids, -

Guess maybe I'd better drop you a note while I seem to have a few minutes on my hands. The way things promise to be before long, I'll have to hire a "nigger" to do my scratching for me - which with these Florida mosquitoes, is no small job! But I often wonder who will get the worst of their bites, - us or the mosquitoes - "on account of because" we've been inoculated against every kind of bug you can imagine - including the "turkey termite" that seems to be plugging La Abner these days!

Thanks a lot for Janet's picture. - You can just bet I could find a place for her! - She's sitting on my so called table and knocks your eyes out as you enter my "boudoir". - I had to laugh when I opened it. - After your telling me you had one for me - I sorta guessed at the package's contents. Anyway - 2 or

3 fellows were hanging around - and when I told them I shot it a picture - they immediately wanted to know - "of whom" - "Why of my very best gal friend, who else?" - So - you should have seen their expressions when Janet's face came to light! I can't hardly imagine her having grown so much.

You mention wanting to hear of my experiences - what experiences? - Guess you'll have to get me half stewed to tell some - cause off hand it doesn't seem like I have many to tell. Flying, - as much as possible, gets to be like most any thing else - 'cept you never forget you are living by your wits - more or less. That it's always up to you! - But then - aviators like everyone else - can be made to talk if you twist our arms hard enough!

Had a little jaunt up the other side of Jacksonville last night - a distance of 200 odd miles in about 45 minutes. - Lord help me if I ever get one of these things headed northward - when there are no instructors in the ship! - We came on back to Avon Park, - played around - then decided to go to Tampa & back! - The whole state of Fla. is our local flying area! - Had lots of fun finding how the radio compass works in actual practice. - we've had the use of 'em in Link, of course. - It's always something new - and this ship has the latest of everything! - Think I'm just beginning to get over the "awe" stage! - Gotta go eat now. Shut when you can. Frank